

vegetable kingdom, can be destroyed outside the host, by antiseptic remedies, but hitherto none of the pathogenic bacteria have been made to succumb to their action while in the system. In ague, on the other hand, where the parasite is a minute animal plasmodium, quinine is a specific. The present discovery of Professor Koch of a remedy for tuberculosis, the most deadly foe of the human race, has agitated civilization more thoroughly than any event for some time, and the din of the excitement its announcement caused still reverberates throughout civilization. The expectations which it aroused through the great reputation of its discoverer have not and will not be fully realized, but that it will accomplish all that he claimed, for it has been proved by the results already obtained by the most competent experimenters and as our knowledge of the action of the remedy becomes perfected and only the cases adapted to its application treated we have no doubt but that very satisfactory results will be obtained.

Another feature of the present period is the relaxing of the marked conservatism which reigns in the profession and the recognition of therapeutic agents hitherto employed mostly by irregulars and ignorant empirics, posing them as panaceas before a gullible public; and the placing of them in their true positions as remedies. Among these may be mentioned electricity, which has a wide range of application hydrotherapy and massage, and lately what is called suggestive therapeutics or the application of hypnotism to the treatment of functional and nervous diseases is being prominently brought forward by such men as Charcot of Paris, and Bernheim and Liebeault of Lyons, and R. Von Kraft Ebing of Graz, Austria, and many others. A great field opens up here for investigation, and one that gives promise of interesting and useful developments.

It is a revival of what is known under the name of Braidism, magnetic healing,

electrobicology, &c. In the hypnotised condition, the subject is more or less completely controlled by the will of the operator and susceptible to any suggestion made by him, so that by a word anæsthesia may be produced, operations are performed without pain being realized, and in like manner they are made to feel pain or any sensation suggested, and diseased conditions are made to disappear with a thought, and even normal physiological and chemical processes are controlled by this power.

The influence of the mind on the conditions of the body must never be lost sight of in treating your patients. Their faith in your ability to heal them, is a more potent factor often than the action of the remedy you prescribe. If it were not so, and if there did not exist a *vis medicatrix nature*, decimal dilutions, faith cure, Christian science, and such like methods would have but few votaries.

Great psychological truths doubtless underlie all these phenomena and manifestations of mental therapeutics, which will in the near future be unfolded by the many eminent workers in this field of labor.

A larger proportion of functional and apparent organic affections which appear for treatment are neurotic; the result of abnormal influences brought to bear on the mind and brain; should you be led into treating the effect and not the seat of origin, disappointment will follow, and you may experience the humiliation of hearing of your patients being cured by some quack nostrum or travelling charlatan through the influence on his mind chiefly of their glowing advertisements.

Graduating classes usually receive at the hands of the Valedictorian parting words of advice. I will be brief. It is presumed that your aim is high. This is a prime requisite in order to attain eminence; then earnest persevering work is needed, without this but little can be accomplished, it is the key which unlocks the treasures of wealth, fame and true greatness. In your